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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

31 JULY 2018

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Placentia – Huntington Beach Man with Alleged Mexican Mafia Ties Charged in Shooting

(U) A Huntington Beach man who authorities allege is a member of the Orange County Mexican Mafia is one of four people facing charges in a shooting that wounded a man in Placentia in 2017. Frank Mosqueda, 39, faces one count of attempted murder, two counts of assault with a semiautomatic firearm, a count of conspiracy to commit murder, a count of street terrorism and a count of being a felon in possession of a firearm, all felonies, according to Orange County Superior Court records. Prosecutors allege that Mosqueda — under the direction of Johnny Martinez, who authorities allege is the leader of the Mexican Mafia in Orange County — wrote a communication known as a “kite” that authorized the killing of a rival street gang member from Placentia.

SOURCE: 30 July 2018, [Los Angeles Times](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) Arizona – 12 Arrested in Drug Smuggling Network Investigation

(U) Chandler – Chandler police said 12 people have been arrested in connection with a drug trafficking ring that brought illicit drugs from the Mexican border into Chandler. The investigation started in May 2017 when the Chandler Police Department's narcotics unit identified an organization that was transporting, packaging and selling drugs from an area near the Mexican border, the department said. Throughout the investigation, detectives seized 2 pounds of heroin and methamphetamine, quantities of cocaine, marijuana and fentanyl, and seven firearms, police said. Officials identified 12 individuals believed to be connected to the ring and arrested them on 24 July, the department said.

SOURCE: 30 July 2018, [AZCentral](#)

(U) Arizona – Tucson Teens Interdicted in Human Smuggling Attempt

(U) Tucson – Two teen sisters were apprehended for human smuggling by a Tucson Station Border Patrol agent on 29 July. According to CBP, the two adult males were found to be illegally present in the country. While searching the vehicle, the BP agent found two more illegal aliens in the trunk. They claimed to have no knowledge of how to let themselves out. All four men, ages 18 to 31, had entered the country illegally. Three were from Guatemala, and one from Mexico. All were arrested for immigration violations and transported to the Tucson Station for processing.

SOURCE: 30 July 2018, [Tucson News Now](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Georgia – Darknet Market Spokesman to be Sentenced on Federal Charges

(U) Atlanta – An Illinois man who worked as a spokesman for a “darknet” marketplace used for illegal online sales is scheduled to be sentenced in federal court in Atlanta. Ronald L. Wheeler III of Streamwood, Illinois, pleaded guilty in March to a charge of conspiracy to commit access device fraud. Prosecutors say Wheeler, known online as Trappy and Trappy Pandora, began working as AlphaBay's

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public relations specialist in May 2015. They say he helped traffic in personal information, using it without authorization to obtain money, goods and services.

SOURCE: 31 July 2018, [Associated Press](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL**(U) Afghanistan – Roadside Bomb Hits Bus and Kills 11**

(U) Herat – As many as 11 people were killed and more than 30 wounded when a bus in western Afghanistan hit a roadside bomb, officials said today. Mohibullah Mohib, a police spokesman in the western province of Farah, said the incident occurred at about 4.30 a.m. in Farah province on the highway between the city of Herat and Helmand province in southwestern Afghanistan. According to figures from the United Nations, more than 1,000 civilians were killed or wounded by explosive remnants and other roadside bombs and improvised explosive devices in the first half of the year.

SOURCE: 31 July 2018, [Reuters](#)

(U) Mexico – Police Arrest Cartel Boss Believed Responsible For Missing Italians in Jalisco

(U) Mexico City – A regional leader of the Jalisco New Generation Cartel (CJNG) arrested in Zapopan, Jalisco, is believed responsible for the 31 January disappearance of three Italian citizens. The arrest of José Guadalupe “Don Lupe” Rodríguez Castillo was the result of a joint investigation by the Federal Police and the National Defense Secretariat and carried out by agents from the Criminal Investigation Agency (AIC). AIC chief Omar García Harfuch said “El Quince,” as Rodríguez is also known, is believed to have controlled cartel activities in the Jalisco municipalities of Ciudad Guzmán, San Gabriel, Tecalitlán, Tolimán, Tonila, Tuxpan Zapotiltic and Zapotitlán de Vadillo. The gang leader was also active in neighboring Colima state in the municipalities of Minatitlán and Tecomán, and in the capital, Manzanillo.

SOURCE: 30 July 2018, [Mexico Daily News](#)

(U) Philippines – Bomb-laden Van Kills at Least 11 in South Philippines Attack

(U) Lamitan – A bomb-laden van driven by a suspected Abu Sayyaf militant went off in a powerful blast today that killed 11 people, including a soldier, five militiamen and the driver, in a brazen attack that reignited terrorism fears in the southern Philippines. Regional military spokesman Lt. Col. Gerry Besana said six army scout rangers and a militiaman were wounded in the explosion after dawn outside an army militia outpost that tore a crater on the road and damaged the outpost in Lamitan city in one of the worst terrorist attacks in the country this year. Militiamen, who have been alerted on possible bombings, stopped the van at a checkpoint in Colonia village, where the bomb went off, military officials said.

SOURCE: 31 July 2018, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Tajikistan – ISIS Claims Deadly Attack On Tourists in Tajikistan

(U) Dushanbe – The Islamic State of Iraq and ash-Sham (ISIS) claimed an attack that killed four foreign cyclists in Tajikistan in what was originally reported as a hit-and-run road accident. The victims, two Americans, a Swiss and Dutch citizen, were struck by a car and attacked on 29 July while on a popular cycle route in the Danghara district, about 100 kilometers (60 miles) south of the capital Dushanbe. “(The suspects) had knives and firearms,” said interior minister Ramazon Hamro Rahimzoda, adding that two other cyclists, Swiss and Dutch nationals, were injured and hospitalized. “One tourist received a knife wound and is being given medical assistance. The victim's condition is stable,” said Rahimzoda, without mentioning a nationality. Another cyclist with the group, a French citizen, escaped without injury and had been questioned by police, he added.

SOURCE: 30 July 2018, [Agence France-Presse](#)

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